

1937.

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY

W. S. WALLACE, M.C., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

J. W. Neal, Printer,
59, High Street, Cowes.

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NEWPORT HOUSE,
CROCKER STREET,
NEWPORT, I.W.

May, 1938.

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council :

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the Sanitary Circumstances, Sanitary Administration, and Vital Statistics for the year 1937.

By direction of the Ministry of Health (Circular 1650) the report is an "Ordinary" one and not a "Survey Report."

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. WALLACE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	5542
Population (Estimated Mid-year 1937)	15380
Number of inhabited houses end of 1937, as per rate book	5017
Rateable value... ..	£101379
Sum represented by a penny rate	£380

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	209	105	104
Illegitimate	7	3	4
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population		14'0	
Stillbirths—			
Legitimate	7	3	4
Illegitimate	2	2	
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births		40	
Deaths	219	116	103
Death rate		14'2	
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child- birth—			
From Puerperal Sepsis			1
From other Puerperal causes... ..			Nil
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ..			4'4
Deaths of Infants under one year of age—			
All infants per 1000 live births			32'4
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births			33'5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births			Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...			1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			Nil

BIRTHS.

The total number of births was 225. On the estimated population of 15380 this gives a birth rate of 14'6 per 1000 living, the birth rate of England and Wales being 15'5.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths in the district was 219. This gives a crude death rate of 14·3 per 1000 of the estimated resident population. The Registrar General gives a comparability factor of 0·79, which makes a corrected death rate of 11·2, the death rate for England and Wales being 12·4.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The causes of the 219 deaths were as follows :—

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	116	103
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...			...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	—	1
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	5	3
7 Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	5	3
10 Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	1	—
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	20	20
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	3
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	7	7
16 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	29	25
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	1	1
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	5	7
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	2
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	5	1
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	—	2
23 Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	—
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
25 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	—	—
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	2
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	3	2
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	6	4

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	—	1
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	3	—
32	Senility	..	...	...	2	9
33	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1
34	Other violence	...	...	...	8	2
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	8	7
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	—
SPECIAL CAUSES (included in No. 35 above)						
	Small-pox	...	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year was 7, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 32·4 per 1000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 58.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(i) PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

W. S. WALLACE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary, Meat, and Food Inspector :

J. W. BROMLEY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(ii) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

No change took place during the year.

(b) **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

There are no ambulances in the district but when necessary the ambulances of the British Red Cross and the Isle of Wight Joint Hospital Board both stationed in Newport are available for accident and sick cases, and for infectious cases respectively.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME.**

The Council employ no nurses but there is an efficient District Nursing Association employing three nurses.

(d) **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

The Isle of Wight County Council have instituted ante and post natal clinics in Cowes and East Cowes. Otherwise the clinics, etc. are as previously reported.

(e) **HOSPITALS.**

There is no change since my last report.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) **WATER.**

No complaint arose during the year of shortage of water supply and no restrictions were necessary.

Samples for chemical and bacteriological analyses of the East Cowes supply were submitted and the results were satisfactory as to the bacterial purity of the water. Chemically the sample showed marked salinity, and the Council are considering the best step to take with regard to this supply. It has always been noted that samples taken in dry seasons, when pumping is excessive, show greater chlorine and saline content than those taken in the winter months; and I think there can be no doubt that a certain amount of sea water must be drawn into the bore hole. A certain amount of water for East Cowes is taken from the Newport supply and the Council are in communication with that borough with a view to increasing the amount taken.

With regard to the surface supplies to the Somerton Reservoirs these gave considerable anxiety, as repeated

analyses showed that contamination by B. Coli, etc. was taking place. A scheme for chlorinating and filtering this supply was prepared by your Water Engineer and at the end of the year the scheme had been presented to the Ministry of Health for approval. This source of supply has always been a potential danger but until some alternative source can be obtained it must be continued. But even with effective treatment this supply must be closely watched.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No important change was made in this during the year.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action was taken to check pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Progress was made in the added area in getting houses connected to the sewer, 17 being so connected.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

No alteration in the method of refuse collection or disposal took place during the year. Many complaints of the refuse tip on the river bank were received mostly as to rat nuisance. Every endeavour is made to keep this tip satisfactory and on each of my visits I was satisfied that the best use was being made of the covering material available. I am satisfied too that every endeavour is made to keep down the number of rats but the whole river bank apart from the refuse dump is a hunting ground for these pests. Advice has been obtained from the County Council's Rat Officer.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended at the end of this report.

(iv) SHOPS.

No special action was taken during the year under the Shop Act, 1934.

(v) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No particular action was necessary with regard to smoke abatement. It has always been found that the various industries were willing and anxious to co-operate, and advice is welcomed.

(vi) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are none of these in the area although at the time of writing one is in course of construction.

(vii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council Houses infested with bugs	...	Nil
Number of other Houses infested with bugs	..	3
Number of Council Houses disinfested...	...	Nil
Number of other Houses disinfested	... ..	3

Experiments have been made with different spraying solutions together with removal of woodwork and treatment with a plumber's blow lamp.

4. SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supplies of the schools in the district are good. No school was closed for infectious disease in 1937.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year—

(1.) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	419
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... ..	435

(2). (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	304
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	320
(3).	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	4
(4).	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	211
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices—		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	189
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—		
(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	46

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (a) | By owners | 46 |
| (b) | By local authority in default of owners | Nil |
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | 4 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... | Nil |
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | (1) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 20 |
| | (2) | Number of families dwelling therein ... | 20 |
| | (3) | Number of persons dwelling therein ... | 141 |
| (b) | | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 13 |
| (c) | (1) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 4 |
| | (2) | Number of persons concerned in such cases | 19½ |

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil

Demolition orders under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 were made on four houses, but demolition has not yet been carried out.

The new houses built to re-house the occupants of the 26 houses dealt with under the Council's slum clearance programme were completed during the year and the tenants were re-housed. Six of the houses under the scheme were demolished during 1937 and others are in the course of demolition.

The question of overcrowding is now receiving attention.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There is one Tuberculin Tested (Certified) and eight Accredited producers of milk in the area.

By virtue of the dual appointment of Medical Officer of Health of the Urban District and Assistant County Medical Officer it has been found possible to have the closest co-operation in administering the Milk and Dairies Order and the Milk (Special Designations) Orders. Consequently, much of the duplication of inspections complained of in other areas has been avoided and it has been possible to get uniformity in standards.

(b) MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

All slaughter houses and meat and other food shops are regularly inspected and the Meat Inspector sees most of the animals slaughtered for human consumption. A full report of the work done will be found in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(e) NUTRITION.

Beyond occasional lectures to Women's Institutes, etc., nothing has been done to disseminate knowledge of nutrition.

(f) SHELL FISH.

One firm in the town has oyster layings in the Rural District, and from there the oysters are brought to be marketed in Cowes.

No action under Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Public Health (Cleansing of Shell Fish) Act, 1932, has been found necessary.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	48	5	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	63	9	—
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' premises) ...	4	—	—
Total ...	115	14	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Pros- ecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts*—				
Want of cleanliness	16	10	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	4	4	—	—
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	—	—	—
	unsuitable or defective....	4	2	—
	not separate for sexes....	1	1	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
TOTAL	25	17	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Forty-four notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year. Of these Scarlet Fever accounted for twenty-four. Three notifications of Diphtheria were received. One case of enteric fever was notified and one of paratyphoid. The former was a yachtsman who had been cruising all round the coast.

The amount of non-notifiable infectious disease can be approximately judged from the weekly returns of the head

teachers of the schools. From these it appears that the following were the numbers of children absent during the year with non-notifiable infectious disease.

Measles	18
Mumps	172
Chicken Pox	19
Whooping Cough... ..	71
Ringworm... ..	3
Scabies	2
German Measles	6
Impetigo	2
Influenza	355
Influenzal Colds	129
	<hr/> 777 <hr/>

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	24	19	—
Diphtheria	3	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	2	2	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	6	—	—
<i>Erysipelas</i>	4	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	2	—	—
Totals	44	25	1

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age.		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Encephalitis Lethargica	Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pemphigus Neonatorum
Under 1		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
1 and under	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	10	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	15	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	20	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	35	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
35	45	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
45	65	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
65 and over.		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	24	3	2	1	—	6	4	—	—	2	2

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	TREATED.					
	At Home	In Hospital				
2	2	—	2	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the beginning of the year there were 80 cases on the Register. During the year 20 new cases, 13 Pulmonary and 7 Non-Pulmonary were added to the Register, three other cases were transferred from other areas in the Island, and two old cases "left" returned, making the total number of cases during the year 105. Of the 20 new cases, two were transferred from the mainland. Of the 105 patients in the district known to be suffering from tuberculosis, 7 died, 6 left the district, in two the diagnosis was unconfirmed, seven recovered, and one died from another disease, leaving 82 on the Register at the close of the year. Of these 82 cases, 57 were Pulmonary and 25 Non-Pulmonary.

There were also two deaths of cases which had not previously been notified as suffering from tuberculosis: two Pulmonary males.

AGE PERIODS.	Totals	New Cases.				Totals	Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
0 and under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 " " 5	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 " " 10	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 " " 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 " " 20	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
20 " " 25	3	1	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
25 " " 35	5	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35 " " 45	2	1	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—
45 " " 55	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
55 " " 65	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards.	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Total ...	20	6	7	5	2	9	5	3	1	—

REPORT

of the Sanitary Inspector, 1937.

Northwood House,
Cowes,
4th May, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Cowes Urban District Council.*

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my second Annual Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1937, in respect of my duties as Sanitary Inspector.

I greatly value the support of the Chairman and Members of the Council, and my thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Works Committee for their invariable courtesy and consideration, to the Medical Officer of Health for his ready help and advice at all times, and to my fellow officials for their co-operation.

I beg to remain, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. BROMLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

No. of Dwelling Houses under the Public Health Acts	671
No. of Dwelling Houses under the Housing Acts ...	419
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces... ..	115
Bakehouses	14
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	34
Slaughterhouses	902
Offensive Trades	10
Stables	27
Drainage Work (Testing of Drains)	193
Premises with regard to Rats	33

Shops and Food Stores	...	...	...	...	59
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	15
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	24
Other Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	82
Total Inspections	...	2598			
Total Re-Inspections	...	581			

NOTICES SERVED.

No. of Complaints Received and Investigated	...	177
No. of Notices and Letters sent with respect to matters requiring attention under Public Health Acts	...	252
No. of Statutory Notices Served	...	16

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

HOUSES.

Overcrowding Abated	...	4
New Floors laid, or repaired	...	26
Plaster of Walls and Ceilings repaired	...	51
Roofs repaired	...	48
Rain Water Pipes and Gutters repaired or renewed	...	48
Sash Frames repaired and sash Cords renewed	...	21
Kitchen Ranges repaired or renewed	...	20
Yards Paved	...	4
Yard Paving repaired or renewed	...	8
Accumulations of Rubbish removed	...	29
Nuisance abated from Keeping Animals	...	6
Dilapidated Sheds demolished	...	4
Verminous Houses cleansed	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	68

DRAINAGE.

No. of Smoke Tests applied to New Drains	...	161
No. of Water Tests applied to New Drains	...	6
No. of Smoke Tests applied to Existing Drains	...	84
No. of Houses completely redrained	...	32
No. of Houses where drainage was partly reconstructed	...	44
No. of Houses where defective drains were repaired	...	143
No. of Inspection Chambers built	...	31
New Gullies Fixed	...	44

Defective Vent and Soil Pipes repaired or re-							
newed							15
New Vent Pipes Provided							22
Rain Water Pipes disconnected from drains ...							8
Cesspools or Earth Closets abolished							17

WATER CLOSETS.

Reconstructed or repaired							18
Wash Down W.C. Pans provided							87
New Cisterns Fixed							64
Cisterns repaired and put in order							15

SINKS AND WASTE PIPES.

New Provided							60
Waste Pipes repaired or renewed							27

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and Limewashed							6
W.C's. in direct communication with Bakehouse							1
Miscellaneous							2

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

W.C's. Cleansed and Limewashed							10
No separate accommodation for sexes							1
Defective W.C. accommodation							2
Miscellaneous							4

RESTAURANTS.

Kitchens Cleansed and Limewashed							9
Sanitary Defects Remedied							4
W.C's. in direct communication with Kitchen ...							1

SHOPS AND OTHER FOOD STORES.

Cleansed and Limewashed							6
Sanitary Defects Remedied							4
Miscellaneous							2
Separate Sanitary Accommodation provided ...							2
Washing Accommodation provided							2

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Cleansed and Limewashed							2
Dirty Utensils Cleansed							1

OFFENSIVE TRADES. FISH FRIERS.

Cleansed and Limewashed	2
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

COWSHEDS.

Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	...	9
Accumulations of Manure Removed	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Defects Remedied under Milk and Dairies				
Orders	...	...	...	3
Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	...	4

STABLES.

Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	...	7
Accumulations of Manure Removed	...	...	...	5

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Cleansed and Limewashed	26
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

LICENSED PREMISES.

Sanitary Accommodation Improved	...	...	4
Urinals Cleansed	...	...	6
New Sanitary Accommodation Provided	...	...	2

DISINFECTION.

Total Number of Infected Houses Disinfected	39
Total Number of Infected Rooms Disinfected	41
No. of Houses Disinfected after Consumption	10
No. of Rooms Disinfected after Consumption...	11
No. of Rooms Disinfected on request	9

DRAINAGE.

This work now takes up a large part of the time of your Inspector. Under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1936 a builder must inform the Local Authority when he opens up to clear a choked or defective drain. This has necessitated a large number of premises to be redrained owing to the bad state of the existing drain.

Progress is being made in the Rural part of the

District where the Local Authority have previously laid their sewer for the owners of property where foul cesspools and earth closets are in use and no proper system of drainage for their premises to be connected to the Council's sewer.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

During the year visits were paid to the cowsheds. Many of these are old buildings, but they are kept in a fairly clean condition and the general condition is fairly satisfactory and improvements are being gradually carried out.

Visits were also paid to the Dairies and Retail Purveyors of Milk. Milk is sold mostly from counter pans and in only a few instances are cartons sold.

Under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, notification was received from the County Council of 4 premises where 5 animals had been slaughtered after Tuberculosis had been confirmed by the Veterinary Surgeon.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

During the year 115 inspections were carried out, several defects were found to exist and in most cases these have now been put into a satisfactory state.

With regard to Bakehouses there is only one underground bakehouse and this has been in use for several years.

SLAUTERHOUSES AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are 6 registered slaughterhouses in the district, 4 are in the vicinity of the main street of West Cowes and the other 2 are at East Cowes.

Regular visits are paid when slaughtering is in progress, and a considerable amount of time is devoted to the inspection.

It is to be noted, however, that there is an absence of cows slaughtered. Principally bullocks and maiden heifers are in the main the chief source of English Beef, and it is to the credit of the butchers that they buy the best quality, which in the long run is the cheapest and most economical.

The undermentioned table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)*	160	...	792	799	1777
Number Inspected	113	...	782	754	1637
<u>All Diseases except T.B.</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	2	...	...	...	2
Percentage of the No. in- spected affected with dis- ease other than T.B.	1.77%	...	...	...	.12%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u> Whole carcasses c'demned.	...	...	...	...	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	1	...	...	...	28
Percentage of No. in- spected affected with Tuberculosis.	.88%	...	...	...	1.83%

* These numbers are approximate only as I am unable definitely to state the numbers killed during my annual leave.

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Regulations relating to the slaughter of animals by means of mechanical instruments are in operation, and no offences have been committed.

All slaughtermen are registered under the Act.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The following table shows the amount of unsound food dealt with during the year.

	lbs.
2 Forequarters Beef—Localised T.B.	330
2 Bullocks' Livers—Flukes	42

1 Bullock's Liver—Abscesses	21
1 Bullock's Liver—Cirrhosis	20
1 Pig's Carcase—Generalised T.B.	100
1 Pig's Carcase—Miliary T.B.	120
23 Pigs' Heads—Localised T.B. (@ 7lbs each)	161
2 Pigs' Plucks—Localised T.B.	15
15 Pigs' Mesenterics—Localised T.B.	45
309 lbs Beef—Unsound	309
265 lbs Mutton—Unsound	265
3—6 lb Tins Corned Beef—Unsound	18
1—6 lb Tin Rolled Ox Tongue—Unsound	6
1—6 lb Tin Lunch Tongue—Unsound	6
1—6 lb Tin Gelantine Meat Paste—Unsound	6
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Total	1464 lbs.
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OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 5 Fish Friers in the district, 3 in West Cowes and 2 in East Cowes. All the premises have been periodically inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

There is no Marine Store Dealer in the District.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Under the above Act inspections have been made and complaints have been received regarding rats, and suitable instructions, advice and help given, accumulations of rubbish removed, and in some cases undergrowth cleared.

The Council's Refuse Tip at West Cowes and the Destructor at East Cowes have been treated with Cyano Gas and found to be effective.

Although not generally known amongst the general public, the responsibility of ridding premises of rats and mice devolves upon the occupier and owner of the premises.

DISINFECTION.

Premises are disinfected after infectious disease by the Department, but disinfection of bedding, etc., is undertaken and done by the Hospital Authorities at Fairlee, Newport.

Where contagious and other diseases occur and disinfection is requested, this is done and no charge is made.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These premises have been periodically inspected and the general maintenance and repairs are carried out by the Surveyor's Department.

Licensed premises have also been inspected and generally these have been found to be kept in a satisfactory state. In several the accommodation has been remodelled and extended.

HOUSING. OVERCROWDING.

During the year 4 cases of overcrowding have been abated. 3 families removed to larger premises and in the other case one of the occupants died thus bringing the number of persons allowed equal to the number in the house.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year it was found that several premises were in a verminous condition ; these houses did not belong to the Corporation. It was found necessary to use a blow lamp on the walls and ceilings, the infected woodwork was treated and finally the premises were sprayed with Zaldecide and Solution "B", both of which were found to be effective. In some cases where vermin was found in mattresses, bedding and furniture, these were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

HOUSING. SLUM CLEARANCE.

When the tenants of the slum clearance areas were removed to the new houses provided for them, inspections were made before they left their houses to see that no vermin was being taken to the new houses. In some cases where vermin were found the occupants voluntarily surrendered the articles etc., and they were taken away and destroyed. No fumigation was carried out to the houses after the tenants had left for the new houses. All the houses have now been demolished.

Proposed further Clearance Areas are now being considered by the Council.

